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WELL EXCALIBUR



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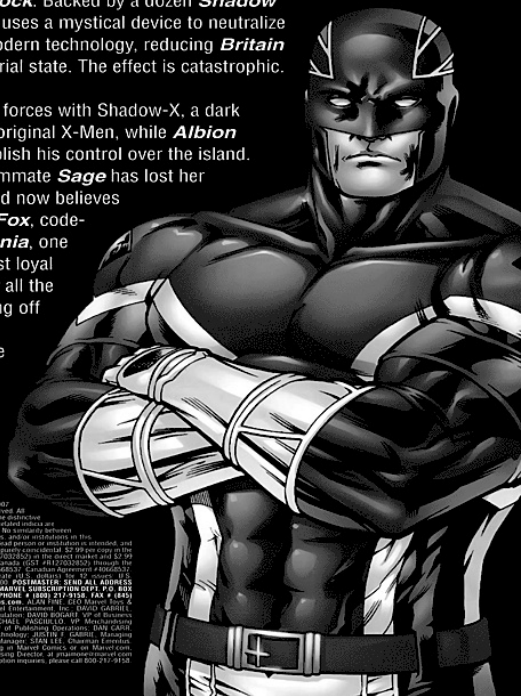
DIRECT EDITION

TAN
Laura

Previously in NEW EXCALIBUR:

Albion has embarked on his plans to overthrow **Roma** and her corps of **Captain Britains** by confronting, and defeating, her Champion on Earth, **Brian Braddock**. Backed by a dozen **Shadow Captains**, he uses a mystical device to neutralize all forms of modern technology, reducing **Britain** to a pre-industrial state. The effect is catastrophic.

Excalibur joins forces with Shadow-X, a dark version of the original X-Men, while **Albion** moves to establish his control over the island. Excalibur's teammate **Sage** has lost her true identity and now believes she is **Diana Fox**, code-named **Britannia**, one of Albion's most loyal followers. Now all the forces are facing off with the fate of the world in the balance.



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LONDON.

JUGGERNAUT

WHAT
THE--?!

DAZZLER

I DON'T
BELIEVE
IT--!

PETE
WISDOM

NOCTURNE

OF
COURSE--I
SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN--!

SAGE

(WHO'S FORGOTTEN
HER TRUE IDENTITY
AND BELIEVES HERSELF
TO BE A DE-POWERED
MUTANT NAMED
DIANA FOX, CODE-
NAMED BRITANNIA
AND WHOLLY LOYAL
TO ALBION.)



ALBION--
YOU'RE
ME!

AND YOU'RE
TRULY
SURPRISED.

WHAT, YOU NEVER
IMAGINED, IN ALL THE
INFINITE VARIATIONS
OF CROSS-TIME...

...YOU WOULDN'T
SOMEDAY COME
ACROSS ANOTHER,
BETTER VERSION OF
YOURSELF?

TWO CAPTAINS, ONE DÉSTINY...

by **CHRIS CLAREMONT**
& **JEREMY HAUN**

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PETRIE--
HAVE YOU
LOST YOUR
MIND?



WHAT'S
GOTTEN INTO
YOU?!



RIGHT
QUESTIONS, I
THINK--



--BUT
I'VE THE
FEELING THAT
PETRIE'S IN NO
FIT SHAPE TO
ANSWER.



AS I RECALL,
ONE OF THE
EXCALIBUR BAND
WIELDED THE ABILITY
TO "POSSESS"
OTHERS.



I WONDER
WOULD THAT
BE YOU?!



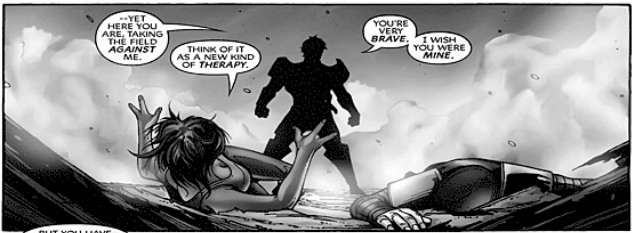
APPARENTLY
SO.



YOU'RE THE
ONE THEY CALL
NOCTURNE.

BUT AS I RECALL,
DIDN'T YOU RECENTLY
SUFFER--WHAT WAS
IT, A STROKE?

A
MONTH AGO, YOU
VERY
NEARLY
DIED--



--YET
HERE YOU
ARE, TAKING
THE FIELD
AGAINST
ME.

THINK OF IT
AS A NEW KIND
OF THERAPY.

YOU'RE
VERY
BRAVE.

I WISH
YOU WERE
MINE.



BUT YOU HAVE
TO FIGHT THE BATTLE
WITH THE TROOPS
AND WEAPONS YOU
POSSESS--

--NOT
THOSE YOU
DESIRE.

THIS GIRL,
NOCTURNE, IS
A THREAT,
CAPTAIN.



DEAL
WITH
HER.
AND THEN,
REJOIN THE
OTHERS.

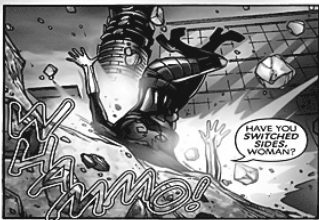


WHAT DID YOU
DO TO ME, GIRL?
WHY CAN'T I
REMEMBER?!

THAT'S THE
THING ABOUT
POSSESSION. I
CHECK IN. YOU
CHECK OUT.

YOU WON'T THINK
THIS IS SO FUNNY WHEN I'M
DONE WITH YOU.











GET OUT OF MY MIND, BRITANNIA.



GET OUT OF MY BODY!



I WANT THEM BACK!

KRAK!



FIGHT'S OVER, WOMAN.

YOU'RE DONE.



DIANA FOX IS DONE, WISDOM, I'M MYSELF AGAIN.

EASY TO SAY, PETAL.

THE LOGICAL MOVE IS TO THROW ME IN CHAINS.

BUT I THINK YOU'D DO BETTER LETTING ME HELP YOU WIN THE BATTLE.

AND DON'T CALL ME "PETAL."



MEANWHILE,
ELSEWHERE
OVERHEAD...

...NUMBERS ARE
STARTING TO
TAKE THEIR TOLL
ON ICEMAN.



BUT HE STILL
GIVES A TAD
BETTER THAN
HE GETS.

MY ARM!
MY ARM!

HOLD
THAT
POSE,
JERK.



I'LL DO TO YOU
WHAT I JUST DID TO
YOUR SWORD!



LIONHEART--
THAT MONSTER'S
KILLED RICKY!

HAVE
YOU COME
TO HELP?

I'M
SORRY
FOR THAT--
BUT LET
HIM BE THE
LAST.



I CARE FOR
ALBION--BUT I
CAN'T BETRAY MY PEOPLE.
I WON'T BETRAY MY
COUNTRY.

I WON'T
BETRAY MY
CHILDREN.

LISTEN TO
ME, BOTH OF
YOU, THIS CAUSE
IS WRONG.



I'M SORRY--
BUT ALBION IS
WRONG.

I ASK YOU,
I BEG YOU--LAY
DOWN YOUR WEAPONS.
CHOOSE A BETTER
WAY.



TRAITOR!

YOU'LL
GET THE FATE
YOU'VE
EARNED--

--YOUR
DEATH!

MEANWHILE,
IN THE NORTH
OF ENGLAND--

THIS IS THE
LOCATION I
SNAGGED FROM
THE CAPTAIN'S
MEMORIES--

--THE
TARGET THEY
HIT BEFORE
ATTACKING
LONDON.

--ABOUT AS
FAR FROM
ANYWHERE
AS ONE CAN
GET ON THIS
SCEPTER
ISLE...



WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
YOU?

YOUR
MEMORIES--
THEY'RE...

...AWFUL!

HOW
STRANGE.
I LOVE
THEM.

SUCK
IT UP, GIRL.
WE HAVE THE
WORLD TO
SAVE.



YOU
CAN MAKE
JOKES?

IT'S
SURPRISINGLY
EASY WHEN
YOU'RE DYING.

I WOULD ASSUME
THOSE TWO ARE THE
MOST FORMIDABLE
OF ALBION'S FORCE.

AND THAT IS THE DEVICE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
NEUTRALIZING ENGLAND'S
TECHNOLOGY.

YOU REALIZE WE PROBABLY DON'T HAVE
A CHANCE AGAINST THOSE TWO.

I THRIVE
ON SUCH
CHALLENGES,
DON'T YOU?

BESIDES,
I TRULY
ENJOY THE
NOTION...

...OF THIS
NATION
OWING ITS
FREEDOM
TO ME.



ONCE MORE, BACK
TO THE SKIES OVER
CENTRAL LONDON...

IT'S TIME
TO FINISH THIS,
BRADDOCK.

I AGREE--

--BUT WHY
DO WE NEED
TO FIGHT?

JUST
BECAUSE
OUR PATH WAS
LAID BY
MERLYN AND
ROMA...

DOESN'T
MEAN WE'RE
COMMITTED
TO IT.

WE HAVE
MINDS AND
SOULS OF OUR
OWN.

WE CAN
FORGE OUR
OWN
DESTINY!!



--PERHAPS
THE SWORD
IS NEEDED
MORE TODAY
THAN THE
AMULET?



... IN ORDER
TO MAKE A
BETTER
FUTURE!



WORDS WORTH CONSIDERING, BRADDOCK, AS I CELEBRATE MY VICTORY.

ALONE, I GRANT YOU, NEITHER OF US SEEMS TO HAVE ANY ADVANTAGE.

BUT AGAINST ME AND BRITANNIA--



BRITANNIA IS NO MORE.

I'M MYSELF AGAIN.

SLAMMO!



THAT'S A PITY.

WHOEVER YOU ARE, BRITANNIA WAS A WARRIOR--AND DIANA FOX, A WOMAN--WELL WORTH KNOWING.

AND THE LIFE SHE LIVED, THE FUTURE SHE EMBRACED, FAR MORE APPEALING THAN YOU DARE ALLOW.

ELSE YOU WOULD NOT HAVE EMBRACED IT SO COMPLETELY.



BUT SINCE YOU'VE CHOSEN TO STAND WITH BRADDOCK...

...BY ALL MEANS FALL WITH HIM AS WELL.







IT'S OVER, ALBION--
YIELD.

NEVER!



I'M SORRY, BRIAN. I TRIED TO SAVE HIM.

IT'S LIKE HE DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE, WITHOUT HIS FRIENDS.



SO, LIONHEART, YOU'VE MADE YOUR CHOICE.

THIS WORLD ISN'T YOURS TO WIN, ALBION--

--ESPECIALLY NOT WITH A SWORD.



FOOLISH WOMAN, THE SWORD IS WHAT DEFINES US.

BUT IT'S NOT THE ONLY THING, ALBION.

HUMANITY HAS THE POTENTIAL--MAYBE EVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY--

--TO FIND A BETTER WAY.



STRANGE WORDS FROM YOU, GREY.

NOT MY WORDS.

I'D BE HAPPY JUST TO SEE YOU DEAD.



GAME'S OVER, ALBION. YOU'VE LOST.

IT ISN'T AS EASY AS YOU THINK, WOMAN. YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH NOTHING WITHOUT THE PROPER CODE.



TIME PASSES,
LIFE GOES ON...

...AND THIS CORNER
OF THE WORLD
GRADUALLY GETS
BACK TO NORMAL.

WITH HIS LAST BREATHS,
BOBBY DRAKE BANISHED
THE VAST MAJORITY OF
THE SNOW HE CREATED.

THE AMOUNT THAT
WAS LEFT PROVIDED
CIVIC-MINDED
SUPERHEROES TO
DO THEIR SHARE OF
CLEANING UP...

AS WELL
AS AMPLE
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR THE
RESIDENTS
OF LONDON
TO PLAY.

AMIDST THE FRIVOLITY,
THOUGH, ARE
MEMORIALS FOR THE
INNOCENTS WHO'D
PERISHED OVER THAT
TERRIBLE WEEKEND...

AS WELL AS THE
HEROES WHO'D
GIVEN THEIR LIVES
TO SET THIS
ISLAND FREE.

...IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF THE HELP YOU GAVE
EXCALIBUR AGAINST
ALBION...

...THE
GOVERNMENT'S
GIVING YOU A
SECOND
CHANCE.

ESSENTIALLY,
YOU'RE
WORKING
NOW WITH
US.

THAT BEING SO,
YOU MIGHT CONSIDER
SETTING THINGS
RIGHT WITH YOUR
FAMILY. YOUR KIDS
SHOULD KNOW THEIR
MOTHER'S ALIVE.

LOVELY NOTION,
CAPTAIN...QUESTION
IS, HOW?

YOU COULD
SIMPLY
OPEN THAT
DOOR.

BUT FIRST,
PETAL, I'D TAKE
OFF THE MASK.

GRAM--
THAT'S LION-
HEART.

I KNEW SHE
WASN'T A
TRAITOR.

SHE'S REALLY
BEAUTIFUL.

THAT'S BARELY
THE HALF OF IT,
MY LADS.

WAY BACK
WHEN YOUR MUM
DIED, THINGS WEREN'T
QUITE WHAT THEY
SEEMED.

SHE'D GOTTEN
CAUGHT UP IN A
RATHER STICKY
SITUATION...

...THAT
WAS NO MORE
FAIR TO YOU
THAN IT WAS
TO HER.

BUT
THE CROWN
NEEDED
HER.

THESE PAST
MANY MONTHS,
SHE'S BEEN ON
A SECRET
MISSION.

WE FELT
IT WAS SAFER--
FOR YOU AND HER--
TO KEEP THE TRUTH
HIDDEN.

BUT
NOW THE
MISSION'S
OVER--!

MUMMY!

OH MY GOODNESS,
OH MY
GOODNESS!

OH MY
DARLINGS,
I'VE MISSED
YOU SO.

ARE YOU
REALLY A
SUPERHERO?
CAN YOU
TAKE US
FLYING?

GOTTA
LOVE THOSE
HAPPY
ENDINGS.



IF ONLY WE'RE
AS FORTUNATE
WITH SAGE.

NOT
BLOODY
LIKELY, I'M
AFRAID.

WASHINGTON
WANTS TO THROW THE
BOOK AT HER.

SO DO
WE.



THEY'RE TROLLING EVERY ROUGH CONNECTION
FROM HER PAST. NOBODY EVEN WANTS TO
TRUST HER ANY LONGER.

HELL,
I'M STILL NOT
CONVINCED WE
CAN TRUST
HER.



WHAT'S
ALL THIS THEN?
WHERE YOU
GOING, CAIN?

YOU
BOOTING ON
THE BIG
PARTY?



I JUST GOT
A PANIC CALL
ABOUT AN OLD
DEBT. I GAVE
MY WORD.

I
GOTTA
GO.



CAN WE HELP,
CAIN? DO YOU NEED
THE TEAM?

THANKS,
BRIAN, I'M
GRATEFUL--

--BUT
THIS IS
SOMETHING I
GOTTA DO
SOLO.

WHAT'CHU
GOING TO DO
THEN, MATE,
WALK?

I'LL ARRANGE
TRANSPORT.

'TIL IT GETS
HERE, YOU CAN
ENJOY THE
PARTY.

YOU
HELPED
SAVE THE
REALM, YOU
STUPID GIT.
LEAST YOU CAN
DO IS TAKE A
FLIPPING
BOW.





TO BE CONTINUED IN--

X-MEN: DIE BY THE SWORD #1!

THE END...

The battle for Britain is over and our heroes are victorious! And with that, our story is concluded. That's right, dear readers, this is the end of an era. It's with a heavy heart that we bring you the last issue of **NEW EXCALIBUR**.

It was an awfully big adventure and we here at Marvel would like to thank all of the talented people who helped create this book: Michael Ryan, Rick Ketcham, Pete Pantazis, Frank Tieri, Chris Yost, Steve Cummings, Scott Kolins, Jeremy Haun, Wil Quintana, Jim Calafiore, Mark McKenna, Tom Chu, Scot Eaton, John Dell, Andrew Crossley, Dave Meikis, Pat Olliffe, Laura Villari and Tom Orzechowski. And an extra special thanks to the legendary Chris Claremont.

But fear not, dear readers. You won't have to wait long to catch up with your favorite mutants from across the pond. Their saga continues in the first issue of the **EXILES/NEW EXCALIBUR** crossover event, **X-MEN: DIE BY THE SWORD**, on sale now!



An Icon Out of Time Building An All-New Legacy!

Marvel's greatest hero is
back where he belongs!



Captain Marvel #1

BRIAN REED
LEE WEEKS

Cover by ED MCGUINNESS

NOVEMBER 2007

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FRANKLIN RICHARDS

SON OF A GENIUS

Monster Mash



Marc Sumerak

Chris Eliopoulos

ON SALE NOW

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Slow go on the Yogos™

New Watermelon Splash
Kellogg's Yogos Bits™
fruit-flavored snacks. The fruity,
creamy taste you love so much,
you hate when it's gone.

Megan



**THE
MINUTEMEN**
Scans by TheRain